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Message Text

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44
ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-01

TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01

/097 W
---------- 024847
R 241752Z FEB 75
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8217
INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USBERLIN
AMCONSUL BREMEN
AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
AMCONSUL HAMBURG
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMCONSUL STUTTGART

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GENEVA PASS MTN DELEGATION

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EIND, ETRD, GW
SUBJECT: STANDARDS HARMONIZATION: FRG VIEWS ON OPTIC METRIC FASTENER SYSTEM (OMFS)

REF: BONN 2833

1. INDISCUSSION FEB 21 WITH MATTEHEISEN (STR) AND EMBOFF, ECONMIN TRADE POLICY OFFICIAL KUEHN RAISED OMFS ISSUE. AFTER NOTING THAT INTRODUCTION
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OF OMFS STANDARDS IN US IS CAUSING CONSIDERABLE

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CONCERN IN GERMANY, KUEHN EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THIS ISSUE COULD BE DEFUSED THROUGH BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS. TO THIS END, FRG EMBASSY HAS BEEN REQUESTED TAKE UP PROBLEM WITH USG. SUCH DISCUSSIONS WOULD HELP CLARIFY REASONS FOR ADOPTION OF OMFS STANDARDS IN US. (ALTHOUGH FRG HAS NOT TAKEN A POSITION AS YET, KUEHN WARNED THAT ADOPTION OF OMFS COULD BE CONSTRUED AS AN NTB.) BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS COULD ALSO EXPLORE POSSIBILITY OF MODIFICATIONS TO BOTH ISO AND OMFS STANDARDS TO MAKE THEM COMPATIBLE. KUEHN REFERRED TO RECENT ISO DISCUSSIONS OF THIS COMPATIBILITY PROBLEM AND THOUGHT THAT IT SEEMED POSSIBLE TO CHANGE TO SOME DEGREE THE PRESENT ISO STANDARDS.

2. COMMENT: WHILE SOMEWHAT SURPRISED THAT FRG HAS OPTED TO PURSUE THIS ISSUE IN BILATERAL RATHER THAN EC CONTEXT, WE BELIEVE DEPT SHOULD TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE POSSIBLE MEANS FOR RESOLVING COMPATIBILITY PROBLEM. FRG WOULD BE RELATIVELY SYMPATHETIC NEGOTIATING PARTNER, INTERESTED IN FINDINGASOLUTION AS QUICKLY AND QUIETLY AS POSSIBLE SO AS TO AVOID HAVING MTN DISCUSSIONS OFSANDARDS EMBROILED IN THIS PROBLEM. PLEASE INFORM EMBASSY ABOUT CURRENT STATUS OF OMFS PROPOSAL AS WELL AS JUSTIFICATION FOR ADOPTING OMFS IN PREFERENCE TO ISO STANDARDS. HILLENBRAND

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Draft Date: 24 FEB 1975
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